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<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/603,911	BURDETTE, CHARLES H.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Michael W Talbot	3722	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-33.
3.  The drawings filed on 25 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 2
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.



**Daniel W. Howell**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 3722**

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Allowable Subject Matter***

1. Claims 1-33 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Rohm '171 and United Kingdom GB 2055062 are the closest art of record.

With regards to claims 1 and 26, Rohm '171 shows in Figure 1 a drill chuck key comprising an elongated body (2), a gear key located at one end of the body having a plurality of teeth (1) spaced circumferentially around body axis (4) and a handle (5) positioned at the opposite end of body. Rohm '171 further shows the teeth having a first surface extending radially outward from the body axis, a second surface intersecting first surface and extending at an inclined angle to body axis and a third surface intersecting second surface and extending in a generally parallel arrangement to body axis so as to be coplanar with the elongated body. Rohm '171 further shows knuckles surfaces formed at the intersection of adjoining tooth surfaces. Rohm '171 lacks the elongated body with smooth rounded surfaces, the knuckle surfaces having a radiused corner so that no sharp edges are provided on the gear teeth and an expanded thumb grip portion with smooth rounded surfaces included on the handle.

There is suggestion in the prior art to provide an expanded thumb grip portion on the handle with smooth rounded surfaces. However there is no suggestion in the prior art to finish all edges and surfaces of the body and gear teeth of the chuck key of Rohm '171 with smooth rounded surfaces.

With regards to claim 20, United Kingdom GB 2055062 shows in Figure 1 a drill chuck key comprising an elongated body (3), a gear key located at one end of the body having a plurality of teeth (1) spaced circumferentially around body axis (8) and a cylindrically shaped handle (4) positioned at the opposite end of body extending generally perpendicular to the body

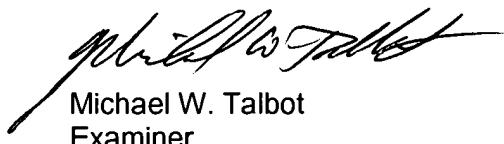
axis. United Kingdom GB 2055062 further shows the handle being of a curved J-shape. United Kingdom GB 2055062 lacks the elongated body with smooth rounded surfaces, the handle having first and second convex rounded ends, the handle having a first and second portion in cooperation to provide an expanded thumb grip portion having smooth rounded surfaces and the body and gear teeth being finished to round off all edges and surfaces.

There is suggestion in the prior art to provide an expanded thumb grip portion on the handle with first and second ends being smooth convex rounded surfaces. However there is no suggestion in the prior art to finish all edges and surfaces of the body and gear teeth of the chuck key of United Kingdom GB 2055062 with smooth rounded surfaces.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning the content of this communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael W. Talbot, whose telephone number is 571-272-4481. The examiner's office hours are typically 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Andrea Wellington, may be reached at 571-272-4483.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, Group 3720 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at FAX number 703-872-9306. This practice may be used for filing papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers, which require a fee, by applicants who authorize charges to a USPTO deposit account. Please identify Examiner Michael W. Talbot of Art Unit 3722 at the top of your cover sheet.



Michael W. Talbot  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3722



Daniel W. Howell  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3722